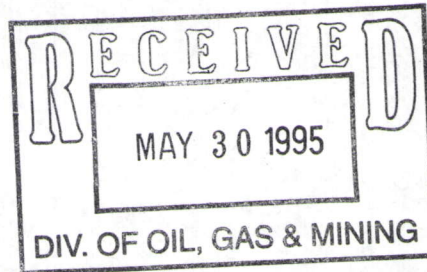


M/035/015(?)

Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation
8315 West 3595 South
P.O. Box 6001
Magna, Utah 84044-6001
(801) 252-3000

Kennecott

May 25, 1995



Steve McNeal
Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Water Quality
288 North 1460 West
P.O. Box 144870
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870

Subject: Notification of an Unpermitted Discharge from
Outfall 004, UPDES Permit No. UT0000051

Dear Mr. McNeal:

This letter documents an unpermitted discharge of contact storm and process water from the 004 Outfall. Oral notification of this discharge was provided to you on May 22, 1995.

The West Pond (also referred to as the Slag Lagoon) is located on the north side of Highway 201 along the base of the Kennecott Slag Pile. The pond receives storm water from Kessler Canyon, contact storm water from the Slag Pile, overflow water from the Section 17 well, and surface water diverted from the Tooele Valley. On occasion, the pond will receive minor amounts of process water from the Smelter Interim Pond and the Smelter during storm events when all of the storm water flowing down Kessler Canyon cannot be diverted into the process water system. The current UPDES Permit allows the discharge of all of these waters, except for the contact storm water and the process water, at the 004 Outfall. Under normal conditions, the water entering the West Pond is pumped into the process water system at the Smelter Return Canal.

On May 6, 1995, the majority of operations at the existing smelter were shut down to allow changeover to the modernized smelter. During this changeover, water demands at the Smelter were low and the majority of water brought in from Tooele Valley (approximately 3,000 gpm) was no longer needed at that time. The supply system for this water was not turned off, resulting in approximately 2,000 gpm being discharged as permitted at the 004 Outfall. In addition, 1,000 gpm of this water was discharged through the over topping of the West Pond. The duration of this

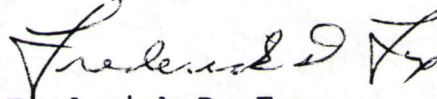
Steve McNeal
May 25, 1995
Page 2

discharge is unknown. The West Pond was checked on May 21, 1995 and was not discharging. The next check of the pond level was on May 22, 1995 at about 8:00 a.m., and the pond was observed to be overflowing. Discharge from the pond was stopped by 1:00 p.m. on May 22, 1995 by pumping the pond water into the process water system. Had all of this water been discharged through the 004 Outfall, the discharge would have fallen under our permit conditions applicable to the 004 Outfall.

A sample of the water discharged from the pond was collected on May 22, 1995. It is expected that the analyses of this sample will show that the quality of this water is similar to the quality of the water typically received from the Tooele Valley water supply and meets all of the permit water quality standards for discharge at the 004 Outfall. No adverse impacts to the environment are expected as a result of this unpermitted discharge. The analytical results for this sample will be reported in the monthly DMR.

Should you have any questions and/or need clarifications, contact Ric Jones at 569-7910.

Very truly yours,



Frederick D. Fox
Director, Environmental Affairs

FDF\RJ:bt

cc: DOGM